

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. Claims 1-11, 13-15, 17-19, and 23-27 have been amended. No new matter has been added. No claims have been canceled.

Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 11, 14, 15, 19, 20, 23, and 24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over US Patent No. 5,732,282 by Provino, et al. (hereinafter “Provino”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,064,368 in view of Kang (hereinafter “Kang”). Claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,732,282 by Provino in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,064,368 in view of Kang and in further view of PI (Persistor CF1 User’s Manual BIOS Management Calls). Claims 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 25, 26, and 27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,732,282 by Provino in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,064,368 in view of Kang and in further view of OSR (Using the NT Registry for Drive Install.

Claims 1-2, 5-6

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, as amended, is not obvious over the combination of Provino and Kang. Independent claim 1, as amended, states:

A method comprising:
a processor executing a BIOS routine by receiving information from at least a first computing system unit, the information comprising at least one of error information, status information, and configuration information;
the processor executing the BIOS routine by storing the received information in a memory;
for a second computing system unit,
the processor executing the BIOS routine by receiving an initial request for the received information from the second computing system unit;
the processor executing the BIOS routine by providing to the second computing system unit in response to the received request at least one of the received information stored in the memory before the receipt of the request if any is stored; and

the processor executing the BIOS routine by providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the request.

(Amended claim 1) (emphasis added).

In contrast, Provino merely discloses a registry, with which virtual device drivers register to eliminate the need for the virtual device drivers to have globally unique identifiers. Provino discloses that application programs can obtain call information from the registry in order to call a virtual device driver. Provino is silent about providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the request.

Kang does not supply this missing element. Kang merely discloses a user interface device for a PC system capable of converting user interface data transmitted from an external input device to data which can be recognized by the PC system. Kang is also silent about providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the request.

Thus, Provino and Kang, either individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest each and every element of independent claim 1. Therefore, independent claim 1 and dependent claims 2, and 5-6 are not obvious over this combination.

Claims 10, 11, 14, 15

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 10, as amended, is not obvious over the combination of Provino and Kang. Independent claim 10, as amended, states:

A machine-readable medium that provides instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause processor to perform operations comprising:
 during execution of a BIOS routine, receiving information from at least one first computing system unit, the information comprising at least one of error information, status information, and configuration information;
 during execution of the BIOS routine, storing the received information in a memory;
 for a second computing system unit,

during execution of the BIOS routine, receiving an initial request for the received information from the second computing system unit;

during execution of the BIOS routine in response to the request, providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the information stored in the memory before the receipt of the request if any is stored; and

during execution of the BIOS routine, providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the request.

(Amended claim 10) (Emphasis Added). As discussed above, Provino and Kang, either individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the request. Therefore, independent claim 10 and dependent claims 11, 14, 15 are not obvious over this combination.

Claims 19, 20, 23, and 24

Applicants respectfully submit that claim 19, as amended, is not obvious over the combination of Provino and Kang. Independent claim 19, as amended, states:

A computer that comprises:
a stored BIOS program in a non-volatile memory that includes instructions that cause the computer to:
receive information from a first unit coupled to the computer, the information comprising at least one of error information, status information, and configuration information;
store the received information in a memory;
for a second unit coupled to the computer,
receive an initial request for the information from the second unit;
in response to the request, provide to the second unit at least one of the information stored in the memory before the receipt of the request if any is stored, and
provide to the second unit at least one of the received information to the second unit received subsequent to the request.

(Amended claim 19) (Emphasis Added). As discussed above, Provino and Kang, either individually or in combination, do not teach or suggest providing to the second

computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the request. Therefore, independent claim 19 and dependent claims 20, 23-24 are not obvious over this combination.

Claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22

Claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Provino in view of Kang and further in view of PI (Persistor CF1 User's Manual BIOS Management Calls). Applicant respectfully submits that the combination does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22.

PI discloses BIOS management calls. P1 does not teach or suggest the providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the request, as claimed in claims 1, 10 and 19.

Thus, as none of Provino, Kang, or P1 teaches each and every limitation of claims 1, 10 and 19, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 3, 4, 12, 13, 21, 22, which depend from one of independent claims 1, 10 and 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.

Claims 7-9, 16-18, 25-27

Claims 7-9, 16-18, 25-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Provino et al. in view of Kang and further in view of OSR (Using the NT Registry for Driver Install). Applicant respectfully submits that the combination does not teach each and every element of the invention as claimed in claims 17-9, 16-18, 25-27.

OSR discloses an NT device driver writer. OSR does not teach or suggest the providing to the second computing system unit at least one of the received information received subsequent to the request, as claimed in claims 1, 10 and 19.

Thus, as none of Provino, Kang, or OSR teaches each and every limitation of claims 1, 10 and 19, the combination cannot render obvious Applicant's invention as claimed in claims 7-9, 16-18, 25-27, which depend from one of independent claims 1, 10 and 19. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over the combination.

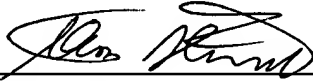
Conclusion

It is respectfully submitted that in view of the amendments and remarks set forth herein, the rejections and objections have been overcome. A petition for an extension of time is submitted with this amendment. If there are any additional charges, please charge them to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

If a telephone conference would facilitate the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Tom Ferrill at (408) 720-8300.

Respectfully submitted,
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